

Budget announcement K. ready to float jointly with E.E.C.

JPL. — The British government announced yesterday it is ready to float the currencies of other common market countries against the dollar. But it laid rigid conditions.

Mr. Barber in his speech to Parliament said the essential condition for a joint float against the dollar would be a pledge by each member country to support the common currency against speculative attacks, no matter how severe the burden became. An essential condition for the joint float would be that the common currency would be fixed against the dollar at a level acceptable to all member states.

Mr. Barber said the new exchange rate would be set against the dollar at a level acceptable to all member states. He said the common currency would be fixed against the dollar at a level acceptable to all member states.

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ROGERS SAYS: Haiphong harbour open

WASHINGTON (UPI). — Secretary of State William Rogers said yesterday Haiphong harbour has been reopened and some ships were going through to North Vietnam.

He told the House Foreign Affairs Committee: "We received the report this morning that some ships are going through. I think the harbour is open."

U.S. mine-sweeping operations to clear the harbour, closed for 10 months by U.S. mining, resumed last weekend after the North Vietnamese and Vietnamese released another group of U.S. prisoners of war. It had been halted briefly last week when the Communists appeared to be talking about the release of prisoners on schedule.

Mr. Rogers told members of the committee that the peace agreement and cease-fire in Vietnam was going smoothly and he was confident — at least as far as military operations were concerned — that it would be a success.

He acknowledged however that a political settlement in South Vietnam faced "a lot of problems."

Several members of the committee said they were concerned about the North Vietnamese emplacement of surface-to-air missiles in northern South Vietnam. Mr. Rogers said the matter was before the four-nation International Control Commission that is supervising the cease-fire.

"The fact is," he said, "that things are working out pretty well. They seem to be complying with the terms of the agreement very well."

Mr. Rogers also said the Nixon Administration will seek prior authority from Congress for any economic assistance programme to Vietnam.

As he did in a Monday session before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Rogers said that the controversy over aid to Vietnam would be kept to a minimum for the next month or so. Such a recess in debate would allow the release of American prisoners to be completed and would also provide time for the administration to formulate its proposals.

Ammunition found at Rome airport

ROME (UPI). — Customs agents yesterday found 166 rounds of ammunition hidden inside a washroom next to a departure gate at Rome's Fiumicino international airport, police said.

Two red ammunition belts containing the 38 calibre bullets were found stuffed inside the washroom's towel dispenser, just a few metres from international departure gate 14, a spokesman said.

Customs agents using dogs that detect the smell of explosives searched the airport but found nothing more, he said.

2 hurt by shoebox bomb in Morocco

CASABLANCA, Morocco (AP). — Two Moroccan bomb disposal experts were hurt yesterday by a bomb hidden in a shoebox discovered at the U.S. Cultural Centre. The bomb went off at a military camp outside the city.

Another bomb was found on Saturday under the car of an official at the American consulate. It was disarmed without causing any injury.

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Hussein hints he may commute executions

Jerusalem Post Arab Affairs Reporter
Jordan's King Hussein last night hinted he would spare the lives of a Fatah group sentenced to death for anti-Jordanian subversive activity, on condition the terrorist movement halted its campaigns against his regime "at once."

The terrorists must immediately end their activities against Jordan, the King said in a reply to a message from Kuwait's ruler Sabah Salem Sabah. The Kuwaiti sheikh had urged Hussein to "reconsider" a death penalty passed Sunday on Fatah leader Mohammed Daud Oudeh (Abu Daud) and a score of terrorists who were captured in Amman last month while planning to take over the Jordanian Prime Minister's office during a Cabinet meeting.

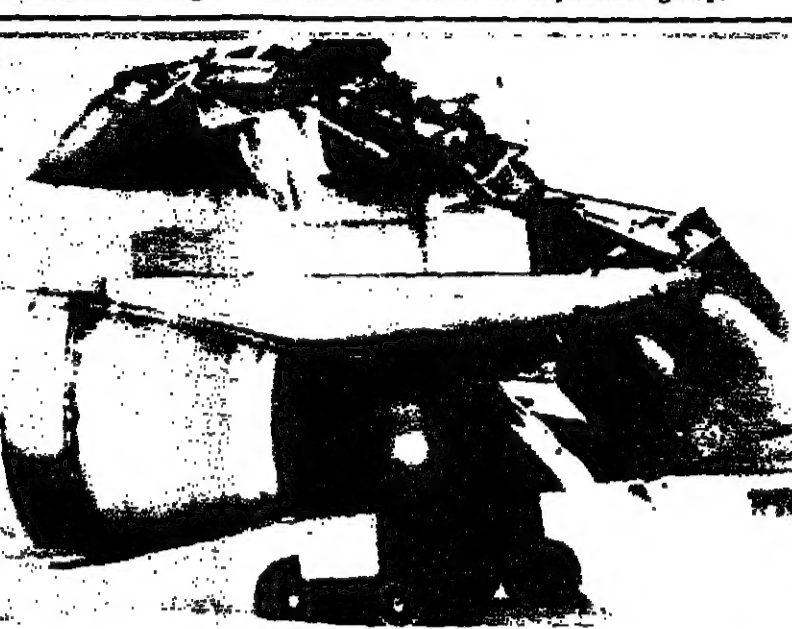
Stressing he was determined to put an end to terrorist activity in Jordan, Hussein told the Kuwaiti ruler he also wanted the Arab governments to guarantee the terrorists' conduct.

The Jordanian monarch criticized the terrorist operations in Munich, Khartoum and plane hijackings, adding the Arab leaders "should shoulder their responsibility with courage and honesty." The terrorists must be mobilized to "unite the Arabs, not divide them, and should be an Arab weapon against the enemy, not a weapon which the enemy uses against our cause."

Hussein last night indicated he was using the condemned Fatah group as a whip against the terrorist movement and their support among Arab states, implying he would withhold the execution pending an Arab decision on whether to restrain the terrorist activity. If the offer is rejected, Hussein may be expected to execute the Fatah captives, believed to be members of the Black September group.



KING HUSSEIN



With its wing ripped, Spanish Spantax charter company's Coronado airliner pictured after landing at military air base in Cognac, France, after colliding with Iberia Airlines jetliner in which 68 lost their lives. There were no injuries aboard the Coronado. (AP radio photo)

Airlines cancel flights over France French say pilot to blame for air crash

PARIS (UPI). — French authorities said yesterday Monday's collision of two Spanish jetliners in which 68 persons died was due to flight errors by one of the pilots. They rejected claims that military traffic controllers were to blame.

But striking civilian controllers said the collision was due to the inexperience of air force technicians manning the controls. And the Spanish airline company of one of the planes involved in the crash also blamed faulty flight control from the ground.

The French air traffic controllers' union declared in a joint communiqué that the "independent and inconsiderate attitude of the government, which sought at all costs to install a control system unfit to meet the needs of civil air traffic, must bear the full and sole responsibility for this tragic accident."

A growing number of airlines ordered their planes not to fly over France.

The International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers Associations (IFATCA) asked its 65 national affiliates to refuse to handle flights over France during the strike, now in its third week.

At least 18 airlines cancelled or modified flights over France yesterday.

On the other hand, Air France continued flights from Paris to London with a stopover in Rome. El Al continued its flights from Brussels to Paris in the immediate future. Its passengers in Paris will travel by bus to Brussels to board the El Al plane there.

Lufthansa and Swiss Air suspended flights after the collision, then resumed them after receiving assurances of maximum safety precautions from the French authorities.

In London, the International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers Associations (IFATCA) said initial evidence suggested the disaster was caused by a traffic control error.

French Transport Minister Robert Galley and Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Claude Grigaut told a news conference the collision occurred when the pilot of a Spantax Charter Coronado, carrying 109 persons, failed to execute instructions and hit an Iberia airline DC9 jetliner with its wing.

The DC9 exploded and crashed, killing 61 passengers and seven crewmen. The explosion at an altitude of 9,000 metres scattered the bodies of the victims and charred pieces of the two jetliners in a wide area south of Nantes, Brittany.

headed for London from Palma, Majorca, was due to pass over Nantes eight minutes before the Spantax craft.

Meanwhile the Spantax company said faulty flight and radar control were responsible for the collision. The company said that French ground control should have ensured that the two aircraft were kept the right distance apart.

France nearly had a second airline collision on Monday, the Swedish news agency reported yesterday.

The report from Stockholm said SAS pilot Rolf Bandell reported a big plane suddenly crossed his course at the same altitude Monday near Abbeville, in northern France. The report said Bandell was flying a Boeing 730 jet with 178 persons aboard, bound for the Canary Islands.

The military air controllers replacing the strikers at French airports had not informed him of any other plane in the vicinity, Bandell said. When he reported the near-collision, he said he was answered: "understood, understood."

He made the statement in revealing that a probe had established that six Palestinians recently arrested in Austria while travelling with false Israeli passports had received them from unidentified contacts in Geneva.

A Swiss communiqué on the probe said the six included several members of the Black September organization.

The communiqué, issued by the Swiss Justice Ministry, said the Palestinians fled into Switzerland in two groups with valid Syrian passports last January. They received their faked Israeli passports and then left again for Austria, "their presumed site of action."

One group was arrested in Austria. The other continued to Italy, where they were caught and handed over to Austrian authorities.

Swiss investigators, the communiqué said, found out that another Arab, Mohamed Boudia, was in Geneva at the same time the two groups were in the city. Boudia, it said, was in touch with a Swiss woman in Geneva. He now lives in Paris, the communiqué added.

"A search of her apartment established that she had the address

NUMEIRI BLASTS Fatah, says it planned raid Wants ringleader given up

Jerusalem Post Arab Affairs Reporter and agencies
Sudan's President Jaafar Numeiri yesterday accused the Fatah of masterminding the Black September weekend attack on the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Khartoum where three hostage diplomats were murdered. He also declared that terrorist organization activity in Sudan would be suspended.

Speaking over Khartoum's Omdurman radio, President Numeiri said that the murder operation was planned by the Fatah representative in Khartoum who shortly before the eight terrorists shot their way into the Saudi Arabian embassy last Thursday night left aboard a Libyan airliner for Tripoli.

He said Fatah must hand over its Khartoum representative to the Sudanese authorities.

Numeiri said the eight terrorists are to stand trial for murder. "I am confident the courts will pass a just punishment." He did not mention the death penalty which is provided for murder under Sudanese law.

Numeiri called on all Arab countries to join him in condemning the attack and the killings. "There is no heroism in seizing a few unarmed people to hold them hostage at gunpoint for demands that everyone knows are impossible to meet and then slaughtering them like sheep to keep their bodies rotting for 24 hours," said Numeiri. "This is contrary to the Moslem religion."

Accusing the terrorists of having committed an "intolerable crime" against innocent diplomats and against state security, Numeiri said that the Sudanese authorities captured documents at the Fatah office showing that the terrorists had violated Sudan's sovereignty.

He said other documents found there were being investigated by the Sudanese authorities, and said he was concerned about them because they indicated the Fatah was conspiring against Ethiopia.

ATTACK LEADER
The man who actually led the attack against the Saudi Embassy was the second man in Fatah's office, and an announcer on a Fatah radio programme broadcast by Omdurman radio, Numeiri said, adding, "There were also contacts (between the Fatah men) and some elements which oppose the Sudanese Government."

By his speech last night, Numeiri became the first Arab leader outside Jordan to blast the terrorist movement. In fact, his anti-terrorist remarks paralleled those of King Hussein who has been in an open confrontation with the terrorists for over two years.

The Sudanese leader said the Khartoum killings had cancelled out world condemnation of Israel's recent attack in Lebanon and the downing of a Libyan civilian airliner over Sinai.

Numeiri called for a reorganization of the terrorist movement and for stricter controls on it in Arab countries.

He said he has sent messages to Arab governments and to the Secretary-General of the Arab League proposing meetings to work out "limits and controls" on the terrorist movement.

In a 40-minute speech broadcast over Omdurman radio, Numeiri rejected a plea by Arafat on behalf of the eight Black September gunmen adding: "Al Fatah would have done better to have condemned the attack on the Saudi Embassy on Sudanese soil and to have demanded punishment for the attackers."

President Numeiri said that what happened could only be described as "a criminal and reckless act which had nothing to do with revolution or courage."

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JAAFAR EL-NUMEIRI

Nixon plea on terrorist 'blackmail'

WASHINGTON (UPI). — President Nixon appealed to foreign nations yesterday to join the U.S. in a policy of rejecting blackmail and extortion when dealing with international terrorist activities.

Commemorating the two U.S. diplomats assassinated by Black September terrorists in the Sudan, Mr. Nixon said that U.S. policy was clearly "not to submit to international blackmail or extortion anywhere in the world."

"Today, we not only express the policy of the U.S., but we respectfully suggest to other governments — rather than standing aside — that they join with us against blackmail and extortion."

"Nations which compromise with terrorism today could be destroyed by terrorism tomorrow," Mr. Nixon warned.

The President made the appeal at a ceremony installing a green marble memorial plaque in the State Department lobby bearing the names of the two diplomats, U.S. Ambassador Cleo Noel and Charge d'Affaires Curtis Moore, inscribed in gold.

COULDN'T APPEASE
The President said any effort at appeasement in the Sudan affair would have "endangered the lives of hundreds of others."

Among those present were Dr. Henry Kissinger, Nixon's national security affairs adviser, William Macomber Jr., who flew to Sudan in an effort to negotiate the release of Noel and Moore, and Arman Meyer, State Department coordinator for combating terrorism.

The bodies of the two murdered diplomats were received home amid full military honours on Monday by their families and Secretary of State and Mrs. William Rogers.

A 19-gun salute rang out and the national anthem was played after the presidential jet landed at Andrews air force base in Maryland.

Arab terrorists have base in Geneva's diplomatic circles

BERN, Switzerland (AP). — Federal attorney Hans Walder said yesterday Swiss investigators have evidence that Palestinian terrorists have a European base in Geneva, "unfortunately also in diplomatic circles."

He made the statement in revealing that a probe had established that six Palestinians recently arrested in Austria while travelling with false Israeli passports had received them from unidentified contacts in Geneva.

A Swiss communiqué on the probe said the six included several members of the Black September organization.

The communiqué, issued by the Swiss Justice Ministry, said the Palestinians fled into Switzerland in two groups with valid Syrian passports last January. They received their faked Israeli passports and then left again for Austria, "their presumed site of action."

One group was arrested in Austria. The other continued to Italy, where they were caught and handed over to Austrian authorities.

Swiss investigators, the communiqué said, found out that another Arab, Mohamed Boudia, was in Geneva at the same time the two groups were in the city. Boudia, it said, was in touch with a Swiss woman in Geneva. He now lives in Paris, the communiqué added.

and telephone number of a contact in Vienna who had helped the terrorists of the first group flee to Italy. She says she obtained them from Boudia. Also found in her apartment were formulas for producing explosives.

The federal attorney commented that the Swiss disclosures were intended to "upset the infrastructure of the Palestinian terrorists in Europe." "Certain bases are in Geneva," he said. "Unfortunately they are also in diplomatic circles."

Meanwhile in Bonn yesterday, the West German Foreign Ministry said top security men were studying plans left behind by Black September terrorists in Khartoum to attack an unspecified embassy in the West German capital.

But a Foreign Ministry spokesman declined to comment on West German newspaper reports that the plans involved the Jordanian Em-

bassy and that security in the building had been stepped up.

The spokesman said the plans were discovered in the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Khartoum after eight Black September terrorists kidnapped five diplomats there last week and killed three of them before surrendering to the Sudanese authorities.

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Zayyat starts India visit today

NEW DELHI (AP). — Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohammed el-Zayyat will pay a four-day official visit to Delhi beginning today for top-level talks on matters of mutual interest, the Indian government announced here yesterday.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Scattered showers with isolated thunderstorms and hail.

Weather synopsis: Upper trough from the Black Sea and Turkey to East Mediterranean causing unstable weather in our region.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min.-Max.	Today's forecast
Jerusalem	42	8-10	3-8
Golan	42	3-4	2-5
Nahariya	58	9-15	6-14
Safed	100	3-6	1-4
Haifa	62	9-15	7-12
Tiberias	58	10-16	7-12
Nazareth	87	8-15	5-8
Afula	87	8-12	4-10
Shomron	49	4-11	2-9
Tel Aviv	49	9-15	6-16
Lod	43	6-17	3-15
Jericho	30	8-21	7-19
Gaza	30	7-17	7-15
Beersheba	35	8-18	5-16
Beit	36	7-21	7-19
Tiran	13	11-22	10-20

Social and Personal

Mr. Otto Probst, a member of the President of the Austrian Parliament, heading a delegation of 25 Socialist M.P.s from Austria, toured the Knesset yesterday, called on Speaker Yisrael Yehoshua, and was entertained to lunch by Alignment whip Moshe Baran.

The Austrian visitors were the guests of Foreign Minister Abba Eban at his home yesterday.

The Danish Film Festival moved to Tel Aviv yesterday. The showing at the Tel Aviv Museum was opened by the Ambassador of Denmark, Mr. Sigvald Kristensen.

Dr. Israel Goldstein, former chairman of Keren Hayesod — United Israel Appeal, has been named a member of the Jewish National Fund Directorate.

The group of U.S. Hadassah regional presidents now visiting Israel, accompanied by Dr. Josef Elman, head of South Africa's Hadassah, the luncheon guests yesterday at the Israel Goldstein Youth Village in Jerusalem. The group was greeted by the Village director, Mr. Zeev Schickler.

The Haifa Rotary Club will hold a business meeting at the Applinger Hotel, at 1 p.m. today.

Dr. Alexander Meijer will speak on "Speech Problems in Child Development" at the second annual meeting of Michal-Jerusalem tomorrow, 8 p.m. at Beit Hillel, 4 Rehov Balfour, Jerusalem.

Mrs. J. Phillip of the Israel Volunteer Service will address the Jerusalem Rotary Club on "Immigrant Absorption" at a luncheon meeting today, 1 p.m. at the YMCA.

ARRIVALS

Dr. A. Bellini, a senior official of WHO, from Geneva, as guest of the Health Ministry, to study the health services in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Dinah Dyckman, honorary president and national fund-raising chairman of the Mirachi Women's Organization of America, and Moses Dyckman.

Steven Schwartz, at the head of a 72-member U.S.A. young leadership mission from New York, for the U.S. Seabeds Committee until April 6.

DEPARTURES

Knesset Member Yitzhak Rabin (N.R.P.) to the U.S. for a four-week lecture tour (by Air).

The South African Consul-General, Ambassador Charles Fincham, and Mrs. Fincham, for New York, where Dr. Fincham will attend the meeting of the U.N. Seabeds Committee until April 6.

'Nixon will wish cooperation with Meir after elections'

LOD AIRPORT. — The world president of Bnai B'rith, David Blumberg, said here yesterday that, judging from the unusual honour and friendship with which Premier Golda Meir was received in the White House, "we believe that Mr. Nixon will wish to continue to cooperate with her after the Israel elections as well."

Mr. Blumberg was speaking to Iltm after arriving at the head of a 160-member Bnai B'rith delegation, here to attend a special Israel 25th anniversary meeting of the organization. (Iltm)

U.S. team to test new runway at Lod Airport

Jerusalem Post Aviation Correspondent

LOD AIRPORT. — A five-man team of specialists of the U.S. Civil Aeronautics Board arrived here yesterday on a test flight to check the navigational aids for Lod Airport's new runway.

The team is led by two airline captains, H.L. Gelbel and E.D. Mattison, attached to the C.A.B. branch in Frankfurt. Also taking part in the tests of the automatic landing equipment will be representatives of the Israel Civil Aviation Authority and Lod Airport workers.

Successful completion of the tests will permit operation of the new runway, which will take aircraft farther away from the centre of Tel Aviv. Departing airliners will take off towards the sea south of Tel Aviv, flying over the sand dunes of Rishon LeZion. Arriving planes will come in high over Netanya and approach Lod over sparsely populated areas.

\$30,000 for each victim of Libyan plane disaster

Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent

Israel will offer the dependants of each Libyan plane crash victim \$30,000, and each injured person from \$10,000 to \$30,000, as ex-gratia payments decided on by the Government out of humanitarian considerations. The ministerial committee under Justice Minister Ya'acov Shimshon Shapiro assigned to decide criteria of payment met yesterday in Jerusalem and unanimously approved these figures, which were recommended by the Justice Minister himself.

Mr. Shapiro will now begin contacts with the International Red Cross, and possibly with other international agencies, with a view to arranging for transfer of the money. (Most of the intended recipients are citizens of Egypt or Libya, and the services of an international agency are therefore required to transmit claims and clarifications, and ultimately to effect payment.)

A well-placed source told The Post last night that Mr. Shapiro intends to place as liberal an interpretation as possible on the concept of "dependant." Mr. Shapiro is also contemplating himself initiating contacts with dependants who, for various reasons, do not claim the sums due them; but no decision has yet been taken on this point. Mr. Shapiro indicated in an interview last night that a period of months would be allowed for contacts to be established with all the dependants.

The \$30,000 figure is \$10,000 higher than the sum laid down by the Warsaw Convention dealing with compensation to dependants of plane crash victims. When an El Al plane was shot down in Bulgaria in 1953, the Bulgarian Government paid out \$5,000 each to the victims' families. But after the Munich massacre of 11 Israeli Olympic athletes last September, the German Government

made an ex-gratia award amounting to nearly \$100,000 per family. The sums to be paid to the seven injured survivors of the Libyan plane will be calculated with regard to the extent of their suffering and disabilities.

Families of Munich dead 'kept in dark'

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Families of the Israeli sportsmen murdered at the Olympic Games in Munich last September have not been informed who gave donations for them and to whom, a spokesman for the families said yesterday. The spokesman, who asked to remain anonymous, intimated that money had been contributed but that no one had so far bothered to inform the families of the amounts involved or through whom they were channelled.

The widows and parents of the slain sportsmen have received compensation from the West German government via the Magen David Adom. The moneys due to children who lost their fathers will not be distributed until a second gunman (in addition to the mother) is officially named for each of them.

Some of the families were under the impression that the Olympic sportsmen were covered by life insurance taken out by the Israeli Olympic Committee, prior to their departure for Munich. However, Josef Inbar, chairman of the L.O.C., told The Jerusalem Post yesterday that the sportsmen were only insured against travel accidents.

Politics could delay Histadrut elections

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Political pressures and technical hitches are likely to postpone Histadrut elections until the spring of 1974. The Histadrut Central Committee is meeting in an extraordinary session today; it is expected to find that holding elections on the scheduled date, September 11, is impracticable.

Accordingly, the Committee is expected to call on tomorrow's special meeting of the Histadrut Council. This session was to have adopted a number of amendments to the labour federation's constitution, giving more weight to manual labourers in the central Histadrut bodies, as compared to white-collar employees.

The Histadrut polls generally precede the Knesset elections — this year they should have taken place about six weeks before the national elections — and generally indicate political trends.

The Histadrut Fees Department, which compiles the electoral list, would be hard put to cope with the September 11 deadline. But it is believed that political considerations of the Labour Party are the decisive factor for the postponement of the elections. The Labour Party leadership is understood to view misgivings the independent course of Histadrut Secretary-General Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, whose popularity with the Histadrut electorate is in the balance. A rise, however slight, for the Labour-Mapam Alignment in the Histadrut would inevitably give Mr.

Ben-Aharon a big boost within his own party. Indirectly, the pressure to delay the Histadrut elections until next spring is an admission that Mr. Ben-Aharon's popularity with the activist Mapam-sponsored workers' committees worries the Labour Party leadership more than it wishes to admit. Despite all this, Deputy Histadrut Secretary-General Yehoram Meshel is still of the view that the Histadrut elections should be held on time.

The Manufacturers Association's Executive Council last night approved, in a stormy session, a preliminary decision to join the tripartite committee on curbing inflation.

Mark Mosevics, the Association president, reported to the Council that Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir who has taken over as chairman of the committee, assured the manufacturers all decisions would be made by the committee unanimously. (The Council stipulated that all decisions made by the committee — in which the Government, the Histadrut and the manufacturers are represented — be brought to it for approval before they are finalized. A similar stipulation was made by Histadrut Secretary-General Yitzhak Ben-Aharon last month, when he said all the committee's recommendations would have to be brought before the Histadrut Central Committee before being accepted.)

A number of the participants in last night's Council session objected vehemently to participation in the committee, saying its recommendations will do nothing to curb inflation and will serve only to curb the manufacturers — since most workers have already achieved their wage increases. Moreover, they said, the Government and Histadrut have not honoured commitments in the past.

The tripartite committee began to meet early last month — with the manufacturers, through their Coordinating Bureau of Economic Organizations, taking part. At the time, the Manufacturers Association presidium decided to join the 18-member committee at the request of Premier Golda Meir, "in order not to slight our Prime Minister." However, last week, when Labour Minister Yosef Almog suggested narrowing the committee down to nine members — three from each sector — Mr. Mosevics posed two conditions: no talk of a price ceiling, as proposed by Mr. Ben-Aharon, and unanimous agreement on all committee decisions.

Sapir: Added Value Tax to be levied next year

By DAVID KEIVINE

Jerusalem Post Economic Correspondent

Finance Minister Sapir has suggested to the banks that they make a special contribution to the exchequer — equal to the amount of added value tax they would be paying if the new levy had been applied this year.

(Added value, in the case of banks and insurance companies, comprises wages plus profits, and this totals in the current year IL700m-IL800m. The Asher Committee recommended an AVT of 3.5 per cent for these sectors; but under consideration is a smaller 2 to 3 per cent. This would bring in IL15m. to IL20m., official says.) "It will be applied in April of next year anyway; the delay is only for technical reasons," he told a luncheon meeting of newsmen at the Press Club in Jerusalem yesterday. The big three banks (Leumi, Hapo'alim and Discount) have a combined balance sheet of IL35,000m. They made good profits, "and have nothing to complain about."

Questioned about the reluctance of employers to join the tripartite talks on policies against inflation, Mr. Sapir stated firmly that the industrialists have not done badly



Two persons were killed in the car above, when it collided with a bus at the intersection of Kibbutz Gahkot and Heyl Hashkryon streets in Tel Aviv Sunday night. They were Shabaz Tal, 23, and his wife Pinna, 24, from Ramat Gan. The bus driver and two of his passengers were slightly injured. (Udi Keren)

Soldier fined for killing two in stolen car

TEL AVIV. — A Rishon LeZion man was fined IL3,000 and had his driver's licence revoked for 10 years by the District Court here yesterday, for causing the death of two girl soldiers who hitched a ride with him in a car he stole while serving in the army.

The man, Shmuel Brasler, 22, stole a car in Tel Aviv and drove it for several days in July 1971. While driving back from his base in the Golan Heights, he collided with a bridge railing and overturned. He and three soldiers who hitched a ride with him were seriously injured, and two of the soldiers — Elda Solomon and Shulamit Halfon — died later of their injuries.

Because of recommendations of the probation officer under whom Brasler was placed, the charges were changed from "manslaughter by criminal negligence" to "causing death through carelessness" and the three-judge panel handed down only a suspended jail sentence of 18 months. (Iltm)

Beduin girl, 2, killed by car

BEERSHEBA. — A two-year-old Beduin girl, Naama Abu Amar, was killed Monday night when she was accidentally run over by a car driven by her uncle, Shedek Abd el Kadar Abu Amar. The accident occurred near the Abu Amar tribe encampment east of here. (Iltm)

'Boy, 2, wasn't attacked by bird of prey'

ASHKELON. — A noted Israeli zoologist yesterday examined a severely injured 2½-year-old boy and ruled he had not been attacked by a bird of prey.

Prof. Heinrich Mendelson, chairman of the Zoology Department at Tel Aviv University, saw Meir Kuzashvili at Ashkelon Hospital, where the child was brought after he was found lying unconscious in the sand dunes south of Ashdod Monday.

Police are now working on the possibility that Meir was attacked by a mentally disturbed person, after he disappeared from his home Monday morning. The boy was being treated for injuries to his eyes, ears, abdomen, groin and thighs. While his condition was reported improved yesterday, he could still not open his eyes, and was receiving transfusions. (Iltm)

Man, 27, gets 8 years on morals charge

TEL AVIV. — A 27-year-old Harzilya man was sentenced yesterday to eight years' imprisonment for enticing other men and young boys to his home to have sexual relations.

The three-man District Court bench pointed out that the man, Avner Kuzahi, had previously been convicted on similar charges and got off with light sentences. The judges noted that Kuzahi admitted he needed psychiatric treatment and ordered the prison authorities to see to it that he got it.

The court held there was no alternative to a prison sentence, since the man at present was a danger to the public. (Iltm)

Eban to raise issue of restitution for Austrian Jews

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Foreign Minister Abba Eban is expected to raise the question of restitution payments to former Austrian Jews during his forthcoming visit to Vienna later this month. He will be acting at the request of the World Association of former Austrian Jews, which supplied him with a special memorandum to that effect. Association chairman Shmuel Schoenblum told the press here yesterday.

The World Association demands the establishment of a joint com-

mittee, representing both the man and Austrian government together with representatives of former Austrian Jews, that will at long last devise a system of restitution payments for them, said.

The renewal of the World Association's plea for the protection of the rights of former Austrian Jews coincides with the 35th anniversary of the "Anschluss" Austria's joining the Nazi Reich — which will be next week, March 12.

Dr. Schoenblum said that of 200,000 Jews who lived in Austria in 1938 about 50,000 are still alive, of whom live in Israel a majority of former Austrian Jews here are elderly people, most over 60, who have little or nothing in the way of property and do not even afford the IL13,500-trance fee payment to an old home, he said.

He accused Dr. Nahum Golda, president of the World Jewish Congress, of having neglected the case of the Austrian Jews, who the worst off of all the Jews in the world under Nazi occupation. Prime Minister Golda Meir raised the question during her visit to Vienna last July.

Probe into 'non-visit' of Mauritius official

Jerusalem Post Diplomatic Correspondent

The Foreign Ministry has asked Israel's ambassador accredited to Mauritius to find out why the Mauritius Minister of Commerce, J.M.G.Y. Marchand, did not turn up at Lod on Monday for an official visit, as planned. Commerce Minister Haim Bar-Lev waited at the airport, but the visitor never showed up.

Israel has no resident ambassador in Mauritius. Its resident ambassador in Madagascar, Haim Rafael, is accredited to Mauritius too. The clarification is therefore expected to take a day or two. Last night, neither the Foreign Ministry nor the Commerce and Industry Ministry had received any word from Mauritius explaining the Minister's non-appearance.

Officials in Jerusalem said they were not perturbed by Mr. Marchand's unexplained absence and did not fear that it might signal displeasure in Mauritius with Israel. One official pointed out that if the Mauritius Government had deliberately wanted to offend Israel by cancelling the visit at the last moment, it would have published its action.

Officials here therefore believe that the explanation lies in some technical or organizational hitch, and they hope Mr. Marchand will still come.

Eban: No sovereignty but Israel's in Jlem

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Foreign Minister Abba Eban asserted firmly yesterday that the issue of sovereignty over the West Bank and Gaza is not Israel's in the United Nations. Eban was replying to questions a reception he held in Jerusalem for the Hebrew Union College Board of Governors.

He had been asked about the report of U.S. columnist Evans as Novaks that King Hussein was willing to countenance Israeli military positions on the Jordan for 50 years, but demanded that part of Jerusalem return to Jordanian sovereignty.

Mr. Eban said that if the King had new ideas which took account Israel's security needs, as if he was prepared for a territorial compromise, he would doubtless find a way to transmit his views to Jerusalem.

Sex education, Arabic courses for grade schools

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

MIGDAL HAEMEK. — Sex education, spoken Arabic and a course on Israel-Arab relations will be introduced in the public primary schools next school year, Education Minister Yigal Alon announced here yesterday.

He said a team of experts had prepared a course on "married life," which will include sex instruction, in two versions — one for the secular schools and the other for religious schools. The course will include zoology, biology and physics, and is aimed at educating children in personal hygiene and pre-marital sexual and emotional problems. Mr. Alon was sure the course would make it possible to teach sex "in a rational and respectable fashion." The course will be started in the first form of elementary school and is gradually to be extended through the top forms of high school.

Mr. Alon who toured this development yesterday, met with teachers and pupils and discussed educational problems with them. The Local Council chairman, Zvi Aldorotti, told him that while the town is situated in a largely Arab area, the children are used to speak with their Arab neighbours. Mr. Alon announced that the Ministry had already prepared a spoken Arabic course to be started on a trial basis in seven dozen fifth and sixth grade classes. The aim is to teach the children enough words to enable them to communicate with Arab children and possibly attract them to continuing studies.

He said his ministry had also prepared a special course, to be taught in all schools, on Israel-Arab relations. It will include three subjects: the source of the conflict, the necessity for self defence against aggression, and Israel's efforts for peace.

Today's forecast calls for more intermittent rain, with occasional thunderstorms and hail.

In the North, heavy rain poured down intermittently, often whipped by gusts of westerly wind and accompanied by loud thunderstorms. Work in Haifa Port was interrupted now and then, and traffic in Haifa slowed down with congestion at focal points.

Farmers are pleased, though the rain has stopped work in the fields. Earth roads have gone muddy and become impassable to all but vehicles with front-wheel drive. In some towns in the Zebulun Plain, hail fell for several minutes.

During Sunday night and Monday, 30 mm. of rain was measured in western Galilee, bringing the season's total to 350 mm. — still far below the annual average. In the Haifa area the total has now reached 300 mm.

In the Golan Heights, where the average annual rainfall is 822mm., 33 mm. fell yesterday, bringing this season's total to 298 so far. Rain in the Golan, and particularly snow on Mt. Hermon, are crucial factors in determining the Kinneret's water level, as they feed the Jordan River which empties into it.

Other rainfall figures: Safed — 28 mm.; Tiberias — 12 mm.; Nazareth — 32 mm.; Tel Aviv — 8 mm.; Jerusalem — 1 mm.; Bir Gafaga — 5 mm.

In Jerusalem hail came down last night, whipped by strong winds. In the late afternoon, for a brief period, snow fell on the Castel, on the side of Jerusalem, and mixed with the rain to form a thick slush on the road — but it soon melted away.

"These investment companies not only have projects, they have invested the funds they possess, and some want to announce at the coming Economic Conference plans to double their capital," he said.

Why STICK TO DOLLAR?

"Why should the Israel pound stick slavishly to the U.S. dollar during all the shifts in exchange rates?" a newspaperman wanted to know. Mr. Sapir pointed out amid laughter that all the university professors had pressed him to devalue while Paul Volcker of the U.S. Treasury, urged him recently to do the opposite, and revalue. "Meanwhile, the price of gold has risen to double its official dollar price, so what rate do you wish us to fix for our currency in terms of gold?" he asked rhetorically.

Last question, as always, was about his plans for the future, and about who will be Prime Minister. "Journalists have dubbed me the queenmaker," he quipped. "Alright, I'm ready to be queenmaker for another four years, if the party agrees."

Paul Kletzki, conductor, dead at 72

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The audience at the first concert in the latest subscription series of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra stood in silence at the funeral of Paul Kletzki, 72, who died last night in his home in Lod. Paul Kletzki, L.P.O. conductor Zvi Mehta announced he was devoted to the main work of the evening Bruckner's Fourth ("Romantic") to his late colleague.

Paul Kletzki, former musical director and conductor of the Dali Symphony Orchestra, collapsed at the Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. He was 72.

Kletzki was born in Lod, Poland, and studied in Warsaw and Berlin. He conducted in Europe, Australia and the U.S. from 1954 to 1967. From 1967 to 1969 he directed the Suisse Romande Orchestra of Geneva. He was a frequent guest of L.P.O.

His many compositions include three symphonies and chamber music.

On the thirtieth day after the death of our beloved

ARIE SCHIFF

a Memorial Service and Tombstone Unveiling will be held today, Wednesday, at the Holon Cemetery at 4 p.m.

THE FAMILY

With deep sorrow, we announce the death of

Dr. Siegbert Shmuel Stein

The funeral will leave the Sanhedria Funeral Parlour, Jerusalem, for Har Hamenuhot, today, March 7 at 11 a.m.

Lotte Stein Joseph and Ruth Grunfeld (née Stein) (Philadelphia) and Dan and Gideon.

Tomorrow

5000-5000

Mifal Hapayis Lottery

Last tickets available near Mifal Hapayis Hall, 3 Rehov Hauptmann, Tel Aviv, on the day of the drawing, till 6:55 p.m.

THE SHARIA (RELIGIOUS) COURT OF RAMALLAH

In the legal session held before me, Mohammed As'ad El-Imam El-Ruseini, Ramallah Legal Judge, there appeared the legally competent person, Ghalib Ali A. Hassan of Ram village; and after he was identified by Hassan Nimer Abu Ghoush of Inwasa, formerly of Bireh, and Abdel-Razek Abdel-Khalek Abdel-Razek of Jaba, the said Ghalib stated: "My wife by legal contract, Ghina De Oca of Cuba, and New Jersey, is divorced from me." He repeated this three times, and requested that the declaration of divorce be notified to Ghina De Oca by an announcement in the local newspaper Al-Shab.

Therefore, as I have been satisfied of the existence of a legally contracted marriage between the said Ghalib and Ghina, recorded in a Magdaba (certificate), signed by the Mukhtar of Ram and co-signers, and as I have been satisfied by the evidence of trustworthy witnesses (identifiers), and as the divorce statement has been made by the husband, Ghalib, in the correct legal manner in the presence of said identifiers, I have given the husband, Ghina, and understand that he has unconditionally divorced his wife, Ghina.

Translation of part of a legal announcement that appeared in Arabic in the newspaper, Al-Shab in February 1973.

MARIKA (Maria) MARKUS

Information is sought on the whereabouts of Marika (Maria) Markus (maiden name).

Born 1929 in Nagymoros, Hungary. Father was Jozsef Markus, an engineer and dealer in antiques, born 1896 in Budapest, Hungary. Grandfather (father of Jozsef Markus) was Emanuel Mandler, a civil engineer who in 1939 was engaged in the sale of antiques.

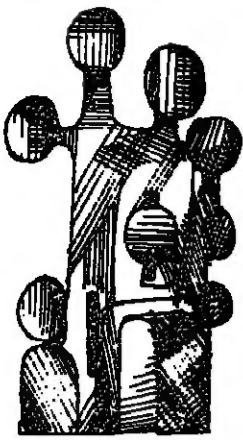
Jozsef Markus had two brothers: Gyula and Laszlo Markus.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Marika Markus is asked to write to No. 18526, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem.

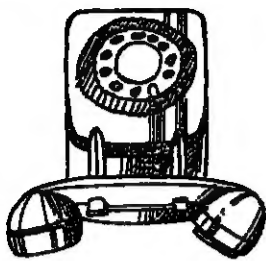
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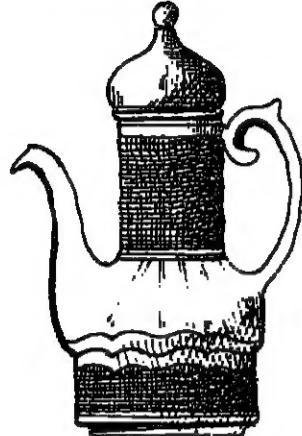
SOLCOOR 99



Decorative



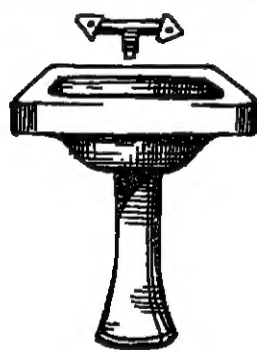
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'Soviet ransom tax' no bar to emigration'

By HENRY SHAPIRO
MOSCOW (UPI). — The head tax on emigrants with university education has not restricted the exodus of Soviet Jews to Israel, according to sources with access to government statistics.

The sources said on Monday since the tax was enacted on August 3, slightly more than 20,000 Jews have left the country, of whom about 1,800 were university-trained.

The tax was applied to about half of the diploma-holding emigrants, the sources said.

The law imposed fees of at least \$5,000 for would-be emigrants who have enjoyed free higher education. The legislation was officially explained as intended to reimburse the

state for the education of the applicant and to prevent a brain drain. About 30,000 Jews emigrated to Israel in 1972, with a little more than half of them leaving after the enactment of the law.

The sources said 4,600 Jews including 290 with college education, left for Israel during the first two months of this year. They expect the flow to increase to about 3,000 this month, they added.

According to official sources, only about 10 per cent of the Jewish applicants have had a higher education and are subject to the tax.

No figures were available on the number of educated Jews, if any, who applied to emigrate but were turned down because of inability to pay the tax.

The law is replete with loopholes which enable the authorities to waive the tax at their discretion. Several Soviet cabinet ministers said last autumn that the law would be applied in a "differentiated way." Recently, Boris Shumilin, Deputy Minister of the Interior, said persons getting a pension and invalids are fully exempt from paying the education levy. So are those who can prove they have no means to reimburse the state for their higher education, he said.

Other applicants are subject to progressively reduced payments depending upon the number of years they have worked after graduation, Shumilin said.

Soviet dancer offered job with U.S. ballet

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI). — Valery Panov, 33, a Russian dancer fired from the Kirov ballet when he sought permission to emigrate to Israel, has been invited to join the San Francisco ballet.

Lew Christensen, artistic director for the San Francisco ballet, said on Monday the invitation also was extended to Mr. Panov's wife. It was contained in a letter sent last week to Mr. Panov's home in Leningrad.

Mr. Panov was fired from the Kirov ballet in March last year. He was warned by the Soviet government he would be charged with slander if he persisted in giving interviews with the Western press about his dismissal.

Last week his application for a visa was again turned down.

Friends said Mr. Panov has been living on charity since he lost his job.

FOREIGN. — One out of every five people working in Vienna is of foreign origin, city officials said.

50 Egypt newsmen sacked

CAIRO (UPI). — About 50 local newsmen have been barred from journalistic work and transferred to other jobs in the second phase of a political purge which began last month, Arab Socialist Union sources said yesterday.

The A.S.U. is Egypt's only legal political party.

The sources said a substantial number of the newsmen involved were known for their leftist leanings. The newsmen have been transferred to the government's state information service, a move which the sources said was tantamount to shelving them.

The purge began in early February following student riots and clashes with police. President Sadat publicly blamed the turmoil on "the adventurist left and the reactionary right." But he laid greater emphasis on the leftists.

In the past four weeks, the A.S.U. disciplinary committee has ordered the expulsion of a total of 118 members. Of these 33 were journalists and writers who have since stopped working although they still draw their salaries pending settlement of their financial status.

The second phase of the clean-up, involving transfers to other jobs, is considered less drastic than the outright ostracism marking the first phase, the sources said.

Those who have been shunted on to the state information service include such well-known writers as Ahmed Baha e-Din of "Al Ahran," Kamel Zuhairy of "Al Gomhuria," and Ahmed Hamrath of the weekly "Rose el-Youssef."



Supporters of the Committee for the Release of Jewish Prisoners demonstrate at a Soviet stand in press review of the "Daily Mail" Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia in London on Monday. (AP radiophoto)

Chile vote recount after fraud charge

SANTIAGO (UPI). — The Chilean Government yesterday began a recount of votes in Sunday's congressional elections, which opposition leaders described as "a fraud."

Senator-elect Sergio Jarpa, president of the rightist National Party, said "the result of the election has been falsified in several provinces. We are in the midst of a scandalous fraud organized by the Interior Ministry to hide the defeat of the government and the categorical triumph of the opposition."

Election inspectors and leaders of all political parties joined in the recount, election officials said, as required by Federal law. The count was expected to last several days.

The final figures issued by the Interior Ministry gave the government 43.9 per cent of the vote in the elections for all 150 deputies and 25 of the 50 senators. The opposition got 54.70 per cent. Splitter group votes accounted for the rest.

President Allende told a news conference the tally "had been absolutely honest." If there were errors, he said, "they will be corrected in the recount."

Under the election results, the nation's anti-Marxist opposition lost seats to the government in both the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies, but retained its majority in both houses.

The opposition was hoping for a

two-thirds majority — the margin needed to impeach — to use as a lever to force Mr. Allende to more moderate economic policies.

Mr. Allende had predicted the government candidates would get about 40 per cent of the vote and said he would consider that a victory. He drew 36 per cent in a three-way presidential race in 1970.

The delay in producing the final figures was officially put down to complications caused by the large number of new voters — about 800,000 young people were enfranchised when Mr. Allende lowered the voting age to 18 from 21 shortly after taking office.

Armoured car thief extradited to Germany

DUESSELDORF, Germany (AP). — Dutch authorities yesterday extradited Guenter Heilmann, 27, the German armoured car driver who made off with \$1.35m. worth of marks.

Police said his 37-year-old accomplice remained in the Netherlands because Dutch police said he tried to run down one of their men when the pair was found near Den Helder on Thursday.

Heilmann provided police with a map that they used on Monday to locate most of the stolen money. It was hidden in a rotting stump near the German city of Moencheng, close to the Dutch border.

He drove away with the money on February 26 while four other armoured car men ate breakfast in the basement of the Duesseldorf state bank.

Police later found a note saying he took the money because the armoured car company had given him a dismissal notice.

U.S. launches secret spy satellite

CAPE KENNEDY, Florida (Reuters). — A super-secret satellite to collect information on Russian and Chinese rocket firings was launched here early yesterday by the U.S. air force.

Baseball pitchers swap wives—and dogs, too

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida (Reuters). — Two baseball stars who room together during the season have swapped families at home.

The athletes, Fritz Peterson and Mike Kekich, both pitchers for the New York Yankees, said they exchanged their wives, children — and even their dogs.

Kekich commented, "We didn't swap wives. We swapped lives." But the arrangement has not worked out well for Kekich and Peterson's wife, Marilyn. They lived together for two months and then again briefly during the winter but have now separated.

Peterson, 31, and Kekich, 27, who have been roommates in the club for the last four years, said they decided to reveal the "life-swap" because it had become known to some people.

Peterson left his wife and two sons and has been living with Kekich's wife Susanne and her two daughters since October. He said he and Susanne — who married Kekich in 1964 — would start divorce proceedings and plan to be married next Autumn.

Peterson, who married Marilyn in 1964, said of the exchange: "It wasn't a sex thing. It was not a cheap swap."

Athens law school closed for seven days

ATHENS (AP). — Athens university law school authorities yesterday closed down the school for seven days and forbade a general student meeting.

Strong security measures were also taken outside the school. Police and uniformed military police patrolled the area.

An announcement issued late on Monday forbidding the meeting scheduled for today came only a few hours after the law school rector had orally granted permission.

55 killed, 200 missing in Bangladesh election drive

DACCA (AP). — At least 55 political workers have been killed and some 200 injured in a month-long election campaign. None of the dead was a candidate. The elections begin today.

In the worst incident a handgrenade exploded at a ruling Awami League public meeting, killing seven persons and injuring 23.

The Awami League central office sources said at least 30 prominent Awami workers were shot dead and 75 injured in February.

The major opposition — the National Socialist Party — claimed 200 of its workers were missing, presumed dead.

The pro-Moscow National Awami Party listed five deaths and 80 injured. It also claimed 25 of their offices were burnt and 25 ransacked.

Cuban gov't to appoint rabbi

NEW YORK (INA). — The Cuban government has accepted the idea of appointing a rabbi to serve the 2,500 Jews remaining in Cuba, according to Rabbi Abraham Hershberg, president of the Union of rabbis of Latin America, who recently returned from Cuba.

Two new cardinals fill vacant posts

VATICAN CITY (Reuters). — Pope Paul VI yesterday named two new cardinals created by him on Monday to head two Vatican departments left leaderless by recent resignations.

French cardinal Paul Philippe, 67, becomes prefect of the congregation for the eastern churches, and Italian cardinal Sergio Pignedoli, 62, is made president of the Vatican's secretariat for non-Christians.

Tanzania holds 48 Ugandans for spying

DAR ES SALAAM (Reuters). — Tanzania has arrested 48 Ugandans, including eight women, on suspicion of spying in a move which yesterday seemed sure to exacerbate her already strained relations with Uganda.

The 48 were taken into custody over the weekend. The minister of state in the president's office, Mr. Peter Sijoyelewa, said they were "suspected of being on a spying mission from Uganda."

The group came to Dar Es Salaam between last August and January, and stayed in big hotels in the capital, an official statement said. Their expenses were paid in full, although they had no particular jobs.

Informed sources said that in view of the political implications of the move, it could be assumed that the decision to make the arrests was taken at a high government level.

Relations between the two neighbouring East African countries have never been good since General Idi Amin seized power in Uganda two years ago in a coup which ousted Dr. Milton Obote, who took refuge in Tanzania with a number of supporters.

President Julius Nyerere has consistently declined to recognize General Amin, and relations between the two countries reached crisis point last in the autumn when some of the exiles based in Tanzania launched an abortive invasion of Uganda aimed at toppling General Amin's regime.

An uneasy peace was restored.

through the mediation of Somalia, but accusations and counter-accusations have continued, one of latest by Tanzania concerning the fate of seven young men who were reported to have gone to Kampala for job interviews just after Christmas.

Tanzania claims the seven were arrested in their hotels in Kampala and has demanded news of them but General Amin's government denied having any knowledge of the matter.

Foreign Ministry sources, however, that it would be "sensible" to suggest there was a connection between this matter and the arrests here.

Cyprus sends team to probe Beirut cruise ship blast

NICOSIA (Reuters). — Cyprus has sent a senior police officer and marine engineer to Beirut to assist in investigations into the explosion in the engine-room of a cruise ship on Sunday.

The Cyprus-registered vessel, *Sonia*, sank in Beirut harbour after the explosion.

The ship's passengers, mainly American Baptist pilgrims, were flown to Cyprus to continue their tour and are now in Israel.



Anthony Barber, Chancellor of the Exchequer, flourishes baton looking Budget Box before leaving No. 11 Downing Street for yesterday's traditional walk to the House of Commons to make his budget speech. (AP radiophoto)

Ready to float £

(Continued from page 1)
against both the German mark and Swiss franc. In Zurich it traded at \$3.135/3.195.

In Brussels it eased to \$3.875. Officially the money markets are closed while finance ministers try to sort out the tangled currency troubles. But all this means is that trading goes on as usual and with the central banks out of the market currencies continue to float.

In Tokyo, the finance ministry yesterday ordered Japan's foreign exchange markets to remain closed for the rest of the week, following the lead of European governments.

In Paris, Finance Minister Etienne d'Estaing yesterday formally summoned the group of 10 nations to meet in Paris on Friday to discuss the world monetary situation.

The move was decided at a meeting of European Common Market finance ministers in Brussels last weekend.

An announcement from d'Estaing's office said the talks would be preceded by a meeting of Common Market nations which are not members of the group.

Meanwhile Mr. Barber announced a "broadly neutral" budget retailing public spending and the nation current 5 per cent economic growth rate at about their present levels.

He said the Common Market controversial Value Added Tax which will replace purchase tax most goods and services, will be applied at a standard 10 per cent.

Mr. Barber said all food for human consumption would be exempt from the new tax.

Also exempt, he said in a concession to opposition Labour demands, would be children's clothing and shoes.

In another bonus for children, Barber said candy, ice cream and soda pop would not be taxed.

He said state pensions for the elderly would be increased by £1 a week to £12.50 for married couples.

Words of wisdom from ITRON OLIM SERVICES

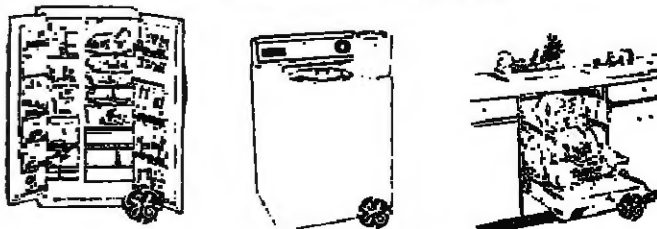
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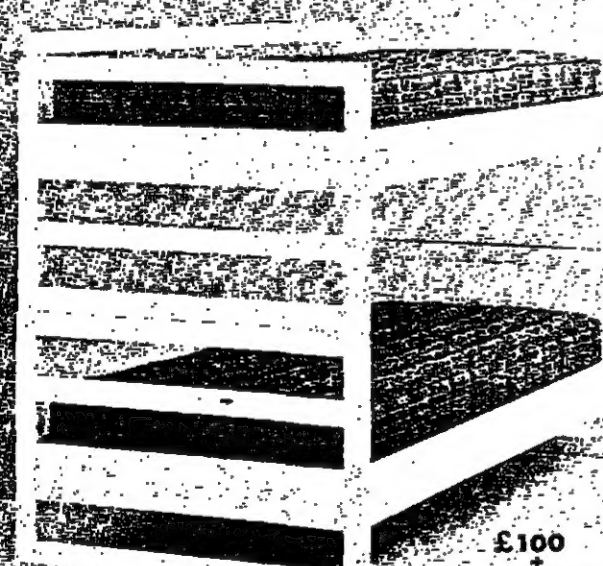
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دكان من الأكل

Moscow blasts Heykal for anti-Soviet bias

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Moscow Radio has attacked recent articles on China in the Cairo newspaper "Al-Ahram" by its editor Mohammed Hassanin Heykal, saying they contain unfair slanders on Russia.

The radio, in its Arabic service on Monday, broadcast an anonymous commentary entitled "Heykal's Chinese tone," which said his articles arouse "a mixed feeling of disappointment, astonishment and annoyance... because they contain unfair slanders of the Soviet Union by the author himself or as a mouthpiece for others."

The commentary went on: "In an article published on February 21, Heykal repeated and backed (Chinese Prime Minister) Chou En-lai's allegations that the Soviet Union, by participating in the Afro-Asian solidarity movement, was seeking its leadership. Thus Heykal is trying to cast a shadow over the anti-imperialist Afro-Asian movement, one of whose founders was Gamel Abdel Nasser."

The commentary said it was not clear what prompted Heykal to make the "spreading of lies about Soviet policy the main topic in his articles on China."



Pearl Buck dies at 80

DANBY, Vermont (AP). — Pearl S. Buck, the daughter of missionaries who won the Nobel and Pulitzer prizes for her writings on China, died yesterday at her home here. She was 80.

Beverly Drake, Miss Buck's private secretary, said the author died "quietly" about 7:25 a.m. She underwent gall bladder surgery last autumn.

Born in West Virginia on June 26, 1892, Miss Buck was raised in China and learned to speak Chinese before she learned English. It was that upbringing, she said, that influenced both the subject of her writing and her style. She spent the first 17 years of her life in China, returned to the U.S. for a while and then worked as a Presbyterian missionary in China from 1914 until 1935. The Communist Chinese government refused her request to revisit the country in October.

She won the Pulitzer Prize in 1932 for "The Good Earth," a book detailing the rise to power of a Chinese peasant, which was cited for "its epic sweep, its distinct and moving characterization, its sustained story interest, its simple and yet richly colored style."

In 1938 she became the first American woman to win a Nobel prize for literature. The prize was granted for her particular work, but the citation read "for rich and genuine epic portrayals of Chinese peasant life, and for masterpieces of biography."

She spent most of her life trying to improve relations between the U.S. and China.

Lovet-Lorski, sculptor, dies

NEW YORK (AP). — Boris Lovet-Lorski, a Lithuanian-born, Russian-trained sculptor who sculpted busts of four U.S. presidents and other notables, has died at the age of 78.

Lovet-Lorski who came to the U.S. in 1920, died on Sunday. His bronze bust of the late President John Kennedy is at Brandeis University. He also did busts of Presidents Lincoln, Eisenhower and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Panova, Soviet novelist, at 67

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Vera Panova, a Soviet novelist and playwright, who won three Stalin Prizes for her work, has died in Leningrad, aged 67, Tass reported yesterday.

Her short novel, "Travelling Companions," published in 1946 was considered both here and abroad as one of the more successful Soviet works about World War II.

Strangles wife for bigamy —after 35 years' marriage

LIVERPOOL, England (UPI). — Harry and Betty Powell had 35 happy years as man and wife — until he discovered she was someone else's wife.

He was so shocked he strangled her with two neckties, a court was told on Monday.

The truth emerged when the 64-year-old Powell wanted his wife's birth certificate so he could apply for a retirement pension.

She confessed that she had already been married to another man for 20 years who was still alive when she went through the marriage ceremony with Powell, defence counsel Rose Heilbron said.

She also admitted lying on their wedding day by giving her age as 28 when she was 41.

"The facts are so bizarre as to be almost unbelievable," Miss Heilbron said. When Powell learned he was not married at all and his wife was a bigamist "his world collapsed in a matter of minutes."

Powell pleaded guilty to manslaughter. He got a two year suspended sentence.

"No useful purpose would be served by sending you to prison," the judge said.

28% of Iran budget for defence

TEHERAN (Reuters). — Iran has announced a record budget of over 893,000m. rials (about IL40,000m.) for the coming year with 28 per cent going on defence — the highest allocation in the country's history.

Defence is to get nearly 134,000m. rials (about IL7,400m.).

Premier Amir Abbas Hoveida, presenting the budget to the Majlis (lower house of parliament) has announced Iran would continue to build up its defences to meet threats, hostilities, intrigues and aggression and to maintain regional peace and security.

"We will turn Iran into one of the strongest powers and will upgrade our defensive forces with latest military technology, and will defend our sovereignty with all possible means," he said.

On Iran's bad relations with Iraq, Mr. Hoveida warned that "we will teach them a lesson" in the event of any aggression.

Mr. Hoveida last November obtained parliamentary approval to borrow and spend abroad about \$216m. for arms purchases, mainly air force and naval weaponry.

ODDS. — Mrs. Jean Scott of Bradford, England, gave birth to a boy on Sunday, her third child to be born on March 4. Doctors said a computer showed the odds against it were 48 million to one.

Pro-Israelis stand good chance in French run-off

By JACK MAURICE

Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS. — Several good friends of Israel seem well placed to win parliamentary seats in next Sunday's run-off bout in the French general election.

Among Israel's supporters, candidates from all parties, with the natural exception of the Communists, made a good showing in the first ballot.

Jean-Claude Marcus, a Gaullist Jewish candidate for the East End of Paris, looks like retaining his seat. So does General Paul Stehlin, a Reform Party M.P. who has always vigorously opposed the French arms embargo against Israel.

Socialist leader Francois Mitter-

rand and the Reform leaders Jean Jacques Servan-Schreiber and Jean Lecanuet, who all advocate a pro-Israel policy, are also well placed for the run-off. So are former Socialist Premier Guy Mollet and his Defence Minister, Maurice Bourges-Maunoury, now turned Gaullist who sent French forces to Suez in 1956.

Jacques Soustelle, former Gaullist minister and long-time friend of Israel, stands a good chance of regaining the seat he held in Lyons until he split with General de Gaulle over his North African policy. Also well placed is Leo Hamon, a Jewish professor who was Minister of Information under de Gaulle.

Defence Minister Michel Debre, a converted Jew, was re-elected out-

right in the first round in Reunion, the French island colony in the Indian Ocean. But Foreign Minister Maurice Schumann, who was also born Jewish, will have a stiff fight to win next Sunday.

The fate of Marcel Dassault, manufacturer of the Mirage warplane, and his top aide, General de Benouville, who were both Gaullist deputies in the last Parliament, is also uncertain.

Daniel Mayer, the president of the League of Human Rights who is standing as a Socialist, faces an uncertain contest on Sunday. So does Jean-Pierre Bloch, president of the League against Racism and Anti-Semitism, another Socialist candidate.

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Monika Schwinn of West Germany on arrival at Clark Air Base in the Philippines after being released by North Vietnamese. A member of a Catholic medical organization when captured in South Vietnam in 1969, she was the only woman prisoner in Communist hands when the Vietnam peace accord was signed. (AP radiophoto)

WOMAN CAPT. HEADS U.S. ARMY UNIT IN GERMANY

HEIDELBERG (AP). — The U.S. Army, in a move symptomatic of the times, put its first woman officer in command of an all-male unit, the army's European headquarters reported yesterday.

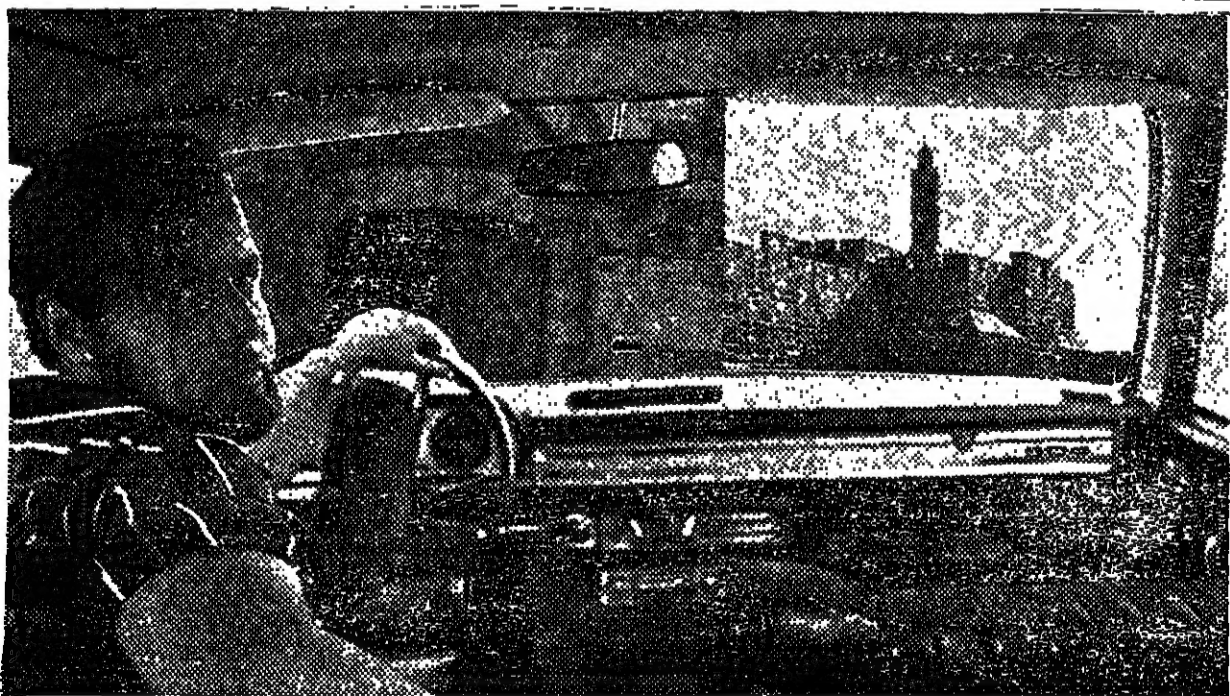
"I think my new assignment is the ultimate," said Capt. Reba Tyler, 32, after a weekend ceremony that put her in charge of one male officer and 33 enlisted men.

"It will be a very interesting experience for everybody concerned. I'm very happy about it," added the athletically inclined woman captain.

Secretary of the Army, Robert Froehke, during a recent visit here predicted the Women's Army Corps will be more than doubled by 1975.

Capt. Tyler said, "It is inevitable that more and more women will be given commands as the number of women in the army increases." She added, "It also takes men away from things they aren't really interested in."

The captain and her 34 men run the 48th Adjutant General Postal Detachment, in the Mannheim area.



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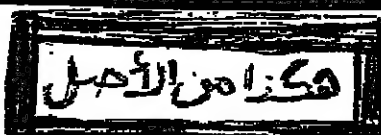
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Spaghetti in meat sauce	450 gr.	1.35	1.20
Spaghetti in sauce	450 gr.	78	80
Spaghetti in tomato sauce	560 gr.	1.28	1.15
Kreplach	450 gr.	1.88	1.69
Baked Beans in sauce	330 gr.	95	85
Chicken soup/Beef soup	3 packages	1.10	99

Export soups

St. Germaine — Minestrone — Provence — Asparagus — Bonne Femme — Onion — Hungarian Goulash — Tomato

2 packages 1.84 1.63

Jelley Strawberry-Raspberry	75	67
Instant pudding Vanilla-Fruit	64	57
Instant pudding Chocolate	89	80

Apricot Confiture	330 gr.	1.10	1.07
Strawberry Confiture	330 gr.	1.35	1.20

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Ready-to-serve prepared meals at reduced prices

Roast Beef — Turkey Roll — Chopped Meat — Brisket — Cholent with Meat, etc.

HOGLA Paper Products Month At Super-Sol

Paper towels	2	3.40	3.05
Paper napkins "Iris" 60 units		2.80	2.05
Paper napkins "Lily" 30 units		1.40	1.25
"LILY" Tissues 100 units		2.80	2.05
"LILY" Tissues 200 units		3.95	3.55
Toilet paper "Iris" 6x400		3.45	3.10
Toilet paper "Lily" 4x300		3.10	2.79

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Turkey Breast	1 kg.	12	9.99
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Apples "Grand Alexander" (size 6 1/2)	1 kg.	1.95
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HALFOUR CELLAR, Kosher Restaurant and Dairy Bar, Rehov Balfour, Tel. 04-622123, Haifa.
LA TRATTORIA, 119 Bd. Haanasi, Mercas Hacarmel, Haifa, for gourmets, 04-55970.

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FOR SALE: Afghan 6 months, pedigree, black female, Tel. 04-622123, Haifa.
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Bar-Lev in Knesset INCENTIVES FOR INDUSTRIES TO FLOAT SHARES

By ASHER WALLFISH
Jerusalem Post Knesset Reporter

Finance Minister Haim Bar-Lev yesterday said that his Ministry proposes granting financial incentives to industrial firms which float shares on the stock exchange. The work of his Ministry in the Knesset yesterday in support of the annual budget bill, aimed at getting industry to raise its own share capital, was granted for a limited period, starting soon, and lasting until the end of 1974.

Bar-Lev said that these incentives would enable the industrial firm to recoup the expenses it incurred in raising the capital—such as putting the prospectus, floating the issue, and selling the actual shares.

However, he explained, two-thirds of this increase was due to exports of diamonds. Industrial exports, not counting diamonds, had only increased by 12 per cent in 1972, as compared with an increase of 24 per cent in 1971. This slowdown was due to falling textile prices abroad, and poor achievement in exports of aviation parts and chemicals from the Arab complex.

Mr. Bar-Lev said it was Ministry policy to make sure that exports remained profitable. Hence the Ministry was currently forecasting price rises in overseas markets, as well as productivity at home, for the year 1973. If these did not cover increases in the cost of industrial inputs, he said, the exporters would get additional compensation, through a return of indirect taxes.

The output in the metals and electronics industries had not increased so fast last year, he said, since the security demand had levelled off, relatively speaking.

Turning to the administered areas, the Minister noted that the special working capital fund set up four years ago had already granted loans worth IL22m.

The Ministry had also helped in the establishment or expansion of enterprises in the areas, by local or Israeli investors, worth IL32m. The number of industrial workers in the West Bank and Gaza had risen from 2,300 five years ago, to 14,000 today.

The Third Economic Conference, opening on May 27 this year, would bring together an estimated 1,000 delegates, many of whom had never before done business in this country, he said. The delegates would have a preview of the big "Industrial and Economic Exhibition," running from May 28 through June 23, and expected to draw some 700,000 Israeli and overseas visitors in all.

This exhibition would also include a special "Export Week" from June 10 to June 15, due to be attended by 30 commercial delegations numbering 1,000 members from various countries.

He said that the Industrial and Economic Exhibition in Tel Aviv would review 25 years of Israel's economic progress. About 1,000 firms and dozens of institutions would present exhibits, he said, and the emphasis would be on business.

Austria wants young tourists

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — The Austrian Tourist Bureau is launching a campaign to change Austria's tourist image from a vacation spot attractive mainly to the older generation (Mozart, Schuster) and to one just as attractive to the younger generation (entertainment and sports).

Dr. Peter Schwarz, commercial attaché at the Austrian Embassy here, said this week that "service in Austria is both friendly and personal, and prices are lower than those in Switzerland, West Germany, England and France."

He added, "In 1972, some 20,000 Israelis spent some 100,000 tourist nights in Austria."

Rehovot building boom hinders standards control

By YITZHAK OKED
Jerusalem Post Reporter

REHOVOT. — A hundred contractors have poured into Rehovot since 1970, causing a building boom which makes it difficult to enforce standards. Mayor Shmuel Reichman told press conference here yesterday.

The Mayor revealed a new master plan for the city, in which the work of the contractors will be carefully monitored and controlled, so as to turn Rehovot into an "ugly" city.

Mayor Reichman said the master plan had been approved by the local Urban Protection Society and a committee for the beautification of Rehovot. "I also sent a personal invitation to each family head in the city to come see the plan and his opinion."

The Mayor said several hundred contractors, wherever they took their proposals into consideration. "You could be surprised, but a real cross-section of the residents came to the meeting — doctors, scientists,

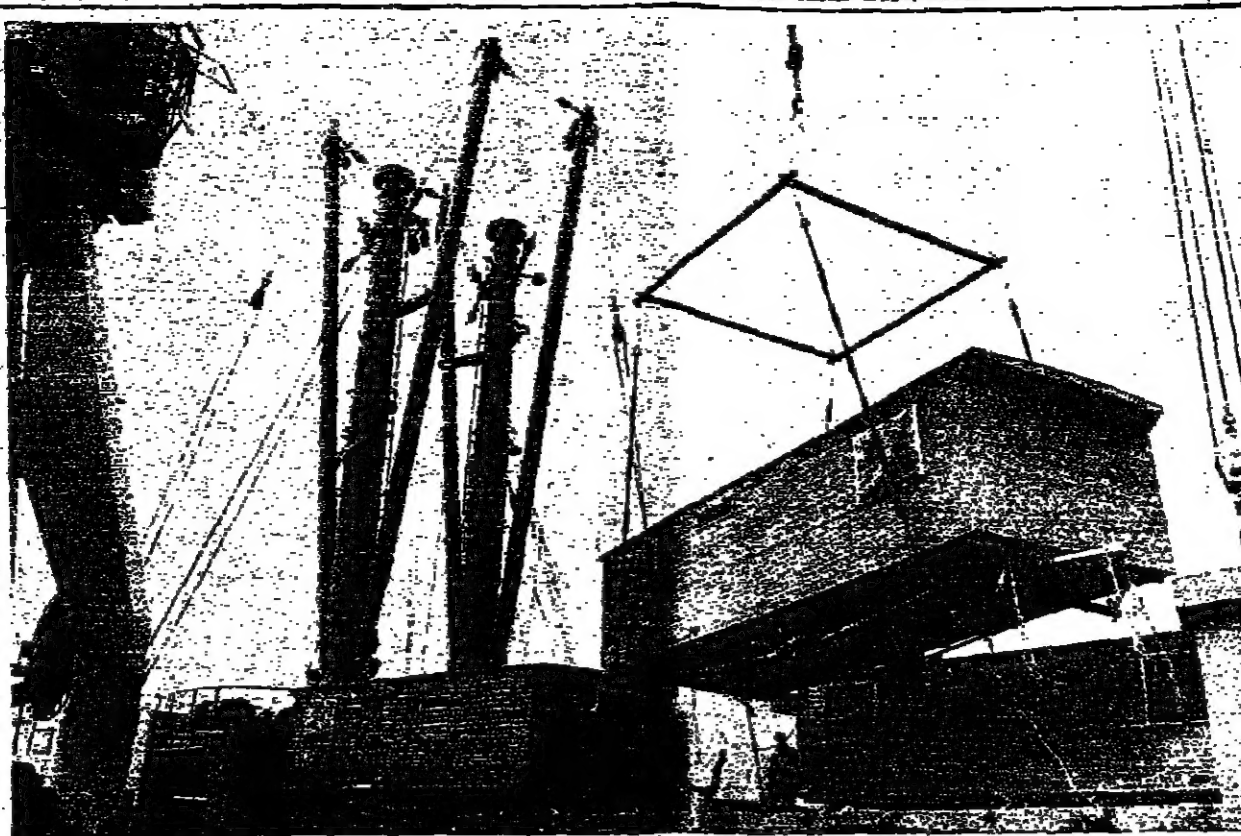
engineers, architects, agricultural scientists, clerks, and — what really surprised me and gave me a good feeling — a large number of high school students, who came and participated very vocally in the discussion."

The Mayor noted that a new by-law went into effect this year which limits the percentage of land on which building is permitted. "For example, in the zone for apartment buildings, we are allowing contractors to build on only 35 per cent of the land (this includes verandas too); the other 65 per cent is allotted for parking and gardens."

The master plan is taking into consideration the needs of Rehovot when it has a population of 74,000 (today it has about 29,000). A 2.4 km. long, 50-metre-wide boulevard from the entrance of the city to the Central Bus Station is included in the plan, to be topped open if and when Rehovot is connected to the subway being planned for the Greater Tel Aviv area.

A government report that factory orders surged in January, and a private report that capital spending by manufacturers might be in for "an increase of boom proportions" this year, also helped boost the buying.

Industrial and transportation issues were higher while utilities were weaker. The Dow Jones index of 30 industrial stocks closed at 979.00, up 12.11.



60 caravans, to be used as provisional housing for new immigrants, were unloaded in Haifa port yesterday. Purchased in England, the caravans will be used to set up a new absorption centre in Pardes Hanna. (Camera 13)

TEL AVIV STOCKS

MARKET RELAXES

TEL AVIV. — The stock market was relaxed yesterday. Prices rose slightly, but turnover was small, standing at IL1.5m, of which IL1m was in the variables.

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By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Dr. Carl Eldorfer

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Britain—still two nations

ON the day of the presentation of the budget in the Westminster Parliament, the Trade Union Congress has threatened the terrible disruption and demoralization of a general strike in Britain, following a wave of labour unrest and strikes in such essential services as hospitals and the distribution of gas. Although the British have a way of taking such emergencies in their stride, and without panic, the malaise is too deep to be ignored by the Heath government or the public at large.

The present unrest cannot be seen merely as opposition to the Conservative government. The previous Labour government had its own share of labour problems, many of which they bequeathed to Mr. Heath. The latter has taken Britain into the expanded European Economic Community and at the same time has attempted to revitalize the British economy and especially its sagging foreign trade. Entry into Europe meant paying a price, part of which was an adjustment in Britain's agricultural policy, which meant sharply rising food prices, and the resultant general inflation.

There are many deep-seated motives for the anger of the British worker that go much beyond simple inflation. He still feels that Britain is divided into two nations — the rich and the poor. He is haunted by the spectre of unemployment and the shadows of the events which led to the great general strike of 1926, and years of mass unemployment during the depression after 1929. The decline of Britain as an imperial power, the loss of her colonies and dominions and the contraction of her traditional markets deprived Britain of a privileged position that came to be taken for granted. Now the inevitable entry into Europe, opposed by

so many people in England, has created the feeling that Britain is no longer in control of even her own economic destiny. The recent financial crisis has possibly affected the pound sterling even more than the dollar. At home, Britain, like the rest of the world, is fighting the inflation which threatens to eat up every hard-won gain in foreign trade. Furthermore, life has become complicated and confusing, full of paper work in the welfare state which Britain has been since 1945. There is affluence on the one hand, and pockets of poverty and bad housing on the other, as a reminder that although the cleavages among Britain's social classes have narrowed considerably in the past generation, the gap is still wide.

Mr. Heath's policy of wage restraints has not had much success in stopping inflation. The offers made by the government to its civil servants have been negligible while businessmen are becoming richer. The T.U.C. knows that it cannot change the situation radically and that even a general strike will not solve Britain's perennial balance of payments problem.

While understanding the grievances of the workers, Prime Minister Heath fears that by raising wages he will unleash more inflation and risk the wrath of his new European partners. Therefore if a strike is declared, it will be the toughest test he has faced since assuming office three years ago.

Britain's trouble should not make us look on our own similar problems as inevitable. On the contrary, it is a reminder that even power, close relations with neighbouring states and well-established world-wide contacts are no protection against economic crises. In each country, they must still be solved from the inside.

Russia no longer opposes American-sponsored Canal talks EGYPT ACCEPTS U.S. ROLE

MRS. Meir's visit to the U.S. could have hardly come at a worse time as far as the general mood of the public in the host country is concerned. Mrs. Meir arrived to find a public opinion that had been aroused to indignation by Israel's forcing down of the Libyan airliner, adjudged to be at best a tragic mistake. She had barely managed to explain when the American public was thrown into gloom by the cold-blooded assassination of its diplomatic representative in Khartoum at the hands of Arab terrorists.

In a sense, the latter tragedy might be seen as helping somewhat to explain why the first occurred, by demonstrating that no action was too unilaterally for Israel to guard against with the kind of enemy it faces. However, the double shock at the spilling of so much innocent blood by wanton deliberation or deliberate caution could only produce a sickening effect about the whole Middle East conflict and all the peoples involved in it.

This mood is unfair, but understandable, and though it will surely pass, it will also leave its mark. It is all the more unfortunate because the Prime Minister was entitled to expect, and did get, this time, an unusually large measure of understanding for Israel's needs and policies on the part of the authorities in Washington — an understanding based on the Administration's view of the present U.S. position in the Middle East and Israel's relation to it.

The Administration's view and the policies it indicates may be summarized as follows:

Sole arbiter

1) The U.S. has at last become the sole arbiter of the Middle East conflict. A few prescient observers had seen this coming for some time; now it is clear to all. It is reflected dramatically in the fact that the principals in the conflict have followed one another within a few weeks to Washington to plead their case. Above all, it is underscored by the fact that President Sadat, who had made a habit of casting the U.S. in the role of the Devil, felt compelled to insert his representative between King Hussein and Premier Golda Meir in the queue. The Egyptian President was in fact going, by proxy, to Cancun. The Egyptian's visit may be politely depicted by tacit agreement of Washington and Cairo as part of a process of multilateral consultations. His trips to other Western capitals and his previous trip to Moscow may be cited as elements supporting that notion.

But the stark fact is that Israel has gone to Washington only because Egypt had exhausted all its other options and has reached the end of its wits: international pressure on Israel in the style of 1956 did not come, the war of attrition was of no avail; the Big Four and Big

An analysis of latest developments in the Middle East by Egyptian-born Nadav Safran, Professor of Government at Harvard, who is this year Visiting Professor at the Hebrew University, lecturing on the Arab-Israel conflict.

Two talks yielded no result; the implicit threat of Soviet all-out intervention did not suffice; the effort to embroil the Soviet Union in fact in such an intervention did not succeed; the threat of ending the cease-fire and resuming the war remained incredible; the attempt to play off Washington and Moscow against each other aborted; and the effort to mobilize a united Arab front or to form a Federation of Arab Republics to scare one superpower and impress the other had no effect.

The "expulsion of the Russians" was Sadat's last, desperate attempt to shock the Soviets into giving him more support than they had provided or to precipitate an American rush to take their place. When this too failed, there was nothing left for him but to plead with Washington for help.

Israel's stand

2) In the most relevant circles in Washington, there is a recognition that the present American position in the Middle East has been achieved mainly because of Israel's unflinching military stand and its insistence on certain terms for a settlement that it deemed minimal. Of course, American military and economic support and the U.S. role in deterring the Soviets had much to do with the achievement of this result; but the U.S. had been prepared to give up much sooner and even exerted considerable pressure on Israel itself to yield, prematurely as it turned out.

Naturally, people in and out of the American Government who have a vested emotional, intellectual, or material interest in denying credit to Israel argue and will argue that the "expulsion of the Russians" — the turning point in the situation — was merely an act of assertion of Egypt-

ian nationalism, on which they have always advised betting. They will also argue that Israel's visit to Washington is the consequence of Egyptian moderation and desire for peace, on the one hand, and the success of American diplomacy in avoiding polarization and total identification with Israel, as they had advocated, on the other.

However, a White House that has taken dramatic initiatives in pursuit of a systematic balance of power policy on a global scale, that has enunciated the Nixon Doctrine with its emphasis on advancing American goals by strengthening the hands of friends, and that has just scored what it seems to be a triumph in Vietnam by a conscious application of a careful blending of military means and diplomacy — such a White House is conditioned to view the present American position in the Middle East in the terms indicated above, rather than in terms of the wishy-washy kind of "explanations," presented by Arabists and their friends.

3) The recognition of the dynamics of the present desirable situation and of Israel's central role in bringing it about preclude any attempt on the part of the U.S. to repeat the 1969-1970 experiment of working out an "even-handed" plan and trying to impose it. Rather, the situation indicates policies that would consolidate and prolong the present American predominance, without alienating the instrument that made it possible. This means avoiding any course that is likely to lead to serious friction with Israel, while also doing something to defuse the threats to the favourable present American position.

Principal threat

The principal threat to the present American predominance derives from a combination of Egyptian frustration and Israel's intransigence. In the absence of any indication of progress toward a solution, Sadat's regime might finally collapse and give way to another that may have more appeal to the Soviets and therefore encourage them to come back and do for it what they refused to do for Sadat. Alternatively, Sadat himself might be compelled to give the Soviets the kind of position and assurance that would tempt them to do for him more than they were willing to do in the past. In either case, the Russians would be back as a factor actively contesting the American predominance.

4) To avert that danger, the U.S. has apparently decided to combine two previous ideas it had and try to promote carefully proximity talks on an interim solution. The merits of this concept, from the American point of view, are that an interim solution is acceptable in principle to both parties, that proximity talks offer the prospects of beginning semi-direct negotiations between them and relegating

the U.S. to a less intrusive role; that the whole project can give the Egyptians the sense that something is being done, and can engage the Israelis without arousing all their anxieties and bringing into play all their internal disagreements about the final settlement.

The U.S. realizes, of course, that previous efforts on its part to mediate an interim settlement foundered on the diametrically opposed aims that the parties sought to achieve through it. However, the deterioration of Egypt's bargaining position since that time leads the U.S. to think that there might be better chances now to find a formula that would at least get the talks between the parties going.

Such a formula might take the form of an announced agreement of the parties to negotiate an interim settlement as part of the effort to realize Security Council Resolution 242 of November, 1967, without their trying to agree in advance on the meaning of that resolution.

The talks matter

That talks based on such different initial concepts are bound to be very prolonged need bother no one. For, if there is agreement at all to hold the talks on that basis, that in itself would be an indication that the talks themselves are what matters most. For Sadat they would provide a pretence of movement and an actual effort to gain the U.S. to his view or to alienate it from Israel, while he has no better alternative. For Israel they would be a first step in the process of negotiation it has long been calling for. And for the U.S. they would be a means to prevent the deterioration of the present favourable situation and to prolong it as much as possible. And if, after all, the talks yield some results, these can only be of benefit to all concerned.

5) The American initiative has all the more chances of succeeding in that it is likely to command the support of the Soviets. Ironically, although one of the aims of the American move is to try to cut off the avenue for a return of the Russians to Egypt and maintain the present American predominance, the Soviets hope to gain from it in the longer run whether it succeeds or fails. If it should fail, the Egyptians might come back to them chastised and content with the scope and terms of Soviet assistance. If it should succeed, they, the Soviets, would at last see the Suez Canal reopened through American efforts after they had failed to accomplish this themselves, and the Egyptians would still be likely to need them in order to help them through the phases following the reopening of the Canal. In the meantime, the Soviets can attend to the really crucial game of trying to outbid China for the U.S. favour without allowing the Middle East conflict to spoil its hand.

Dry Bones



ISRAEL PRESS

Another term for Mrs. Meir?

Davar (Histadrut): "The question whether Mrs. Meir will continue to serve after the elections depends on her decision only. There is no doubt, however, that her placement at the head of the list is desirable to all factions in the Alignment, to all former factions of the Labour Party and to all her potential successors." While it is really unclear whether the Prime Minister has decided to stand for another term, the paper says it will welcome a positive decision.

Ha'aretz (non-party), listing what it considers to be the advantages and disadvantages of Mrs. Meir's continuing to serve as Prime Minister, writes: "In the light of Israel's foreign relations, it is desirable that Mrs. Meir should continue to serve, since as Prime Minister she succeeded in establishing relations of trust and understanding with President Nixon, ensuring the continued friendship of the U.S. In the domestic sphere, however, she displays a lack of sensitivity reaching stupendous proportions at times, and there is no communication between her and the public—especially

youth. Her continuation in office will ensure that Israel will not agree to unnecessary concessions, but where domestic policy is concerned, it will ensure the marking of time."

Al Hamishmar (Mapam) describes the Prime Minister's visit to the U.S. as a very successful trip: "This tour has proven the value of Mrs. Meir's leadership, and there is no doubt that the Prime Minister herself has been persuaded that the time is not ripe for a change. Mrs. Meir's announcement of her continuation in office would be welcomed by public opinion in Israel in general."

Omer (Histadrut) hopes that Mrs. Meir will carry on as Prime Minister "since the State needs her talents and international connections." Ha'azef (National Religious) writes: "The solution to the problem of terrorism is international action aimed at compelling the Arab states to oppose terrorism. The Khartoum atrocities reinforce Israel's apprehension that the Arab states which support terrorism have no intention of negotiating with us."

LIBYAN PLANE

SINAI TRAGEDY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I read with horror about the bringing down over Sinai of a plane in which women and children were travelling.

But I read with greater horror the fanatic condemnation of this tragic disaster. Surely the world should pause to look back and then to decide which was the greater crime, the downing of this plane or the past crimes of other nations in driving not one hundred women and children — but millions — to that unspeakable death of the gas chambers (in which I also lost many relatives from Paris, lawyers and poets, beautiful people all of them).

JULIETTE DE BAIRACLI LEVI
Rosh Pina, February 26.

Sir, — Now that most of the facts are in about the Libyan aircraft tragedy, I still can not understand, with the availability of widespread radio receivers, which enable reception of a signal which is not exactly at the frequency of the transmitter (it may be quite far off), why the Bir Gafgafa radio station did not contact the plane; more than this, why did they not hear the plane's conversation with Cairo?

In any future crisis such as this, broadband communication must be used.
MARTIN S. HOWARD
Tel Aviv, February 27.

Sir, — Please allow me to express through your columns my shock and horror at the brutal shooting down of an unarmed civilian plane over the skies of Israel.

No "state of war," past provocation, etc., etc., can justify this outrage. It is — alas — only the (presently) latest step in the ever-increasing militarization of the State of Israel, a complete betrayal of all that it was once meant to be... and very briefly was.

There was a time when we Jews excelled in matters of the mind and spirit. I, for one, deeply resent that you have now reduced us to a trigger-happy little band of desert braves.
MIRIAM M. ABILEAH
Montreal, February 23

Readers' letters

Woman Health Minister wanted

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post:

Sir, — I am very much in agreement with Julian I. Meltzer's suggestion that the Ministry of Health should be headed by a woman physician, with the right professional and administrative qualifications, of course, and I hope to see this happen some day soon. In New York, there have been at least two very able and successful women in the office of Commissioner of Health — Dr. Mary McLaughlin, who is there now, and Dr. Leona Baumgardner, several years ago. Both have been very popular with their colleagues in the medical profession, and I have never heard anyone say that they were less able than the men who have held the same job, either as doctors or as administrators of a huge force responsible for the health of more than ten million people.

After all, this should be a woman's job. The highest health officer of a city or nation is like the chief executive housekeeper-plus-senior resident physician of a great hotel or other institution dealing with the welfare of the people living in it. I think it will be a wonderful thing if Israel can find and attract the right person to be its first woman Minister of Health. For one thing, I am sure she will be especially zealous about the purity of water, food, and the environment, and active in consumer protection as it affects family health in Israel.

ISADORA SAKIER
Tel Aviv, March 1.

MISSING IRONY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — I was sorry to see that in your shortening my letter concerning Dr. Warhaftig and the missionaries (March 1), the intended irony was lost.

I am particularly sorry that you cut the part referring to historical precedents; in my view Dr. Warhaftig's intended crack-down smacks of a witch-hunt.

HENNING SCHWARZ
Ramat Aviv, March 1.

TOURISM LOANS

MINISTRY UNFAIR TO RESTAURANTS

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post: Sir, — It is gratifying to note the achievements of our Ministry of Tourism during the last few years. Yet there is still room for improvement, especially as regards cafes and restaurants.

The Government grants long-term loans to luxury hotels on favourable terms for up to 60 per cent of the investment and allows them to import their equipment duty free. While this is as it should be, the Ministry of Tourism appears to overlook the infrastructure of the industry. Most tourists are booked for half-board at their hotels, that is breakfast and one meal a day. During the day, they are taken on tours and are served one meal at a wayside restaurant. In between these tours, they are given a day or two off for rest, private visits and shopping. Stepping out of the luxury hotels, they are surprised by the inferior standard of equipment at most of the cafes and restaurants which the Tourist Ministry has "recommended for tourists." That sign on the door is about all their owners receive from the Government.

The tourists change their foreign currency at the hotels or at a bank and pay in the restaurants and cafes with Israeli money. Hence these restaurants and cafes earn no foreign exchange and are thus barred from importing duty-free equipment, a vicious circle they cannot break.

Small pensions and family-type hotels with 10 or 20 rooms, which offer the tourist a personal touch and which, in Switzerland and Austria, outamber the big hotels in rooms, are also discriminated against. All the Government help goes to the big operators. I would suggest that this policy be reviewed in the light of European experience and with more regard to fair play.

Haifa, January 22. ERICH KOHN

The Ministry of Tourism replies: It was kind of Mr. Kohn to point out the achievements of our Ministry in the development of tourism. With regard to the problem he men-

tions, we would like to inform him of the following facts:

1. The Government does not grant hotels loans amounting to 60 per cent of the total investment. The size of the loan varies from area to area and is governed by strict rules and criteria.

2. The problem of half-board as precondition to renting rooms to tourists was solved recently when the Israel Hotel Association abandoned this demand and agreed to rent rooms on the basis of bed and breakfast only.

3. We agree that there is room for further improvement of restaurants and cafes; that is why the Minister of Tourism discussed the problem not long ago at the convention of the Israel Merchants' Association, when restaurant and cafe owners were present.

4. It would be helpful if the district health offices and the municipal authorities showed more awareness of this problem and insured the maintenance of a satisfactory standard of cleanliness everywhere.

EVKA SHREIBOM,
Assistant Spokesman

Jerusalem, February 21.



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